

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of

Paul Alexander DE VRIES et al.

Examiner: Tima Michele McGuthry Banks

Application No.: 10/516,889

Art Unit: 1793

Filed: December 3, 2004

Confirmation No.: 1709

For: METHOD FOR FRACTIONAL CRYSTALLISATION OF A MOLTEN METAL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 98, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO 1449.

The references include Notices of Allowance as well as Office actions in applications having an inventor in common with the present application.

Applicants present these references so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rule 104. Applicants respectfully request that these references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

/anthony p venturino/

Date: April 7, 2008

By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Anthony P. Venturino  
Registration No. 31,674

APV/bcn  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 8674.024.US0000

NOVAK, DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP  
1300 I STREET, N.W., SUITE 1000 WEST  
WASHINGTON, DC 20005  
TEL. 202-659-0100 / FAX. 202-659-0105